Application No. 10/592,982

Paper Dated: June 2, 2011

In Reply to USPTO Correspondence of March 2, 2011

Attorney Docket No. 0115-062616

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

## **Listing of Claims**

Claims 1-8 (Cancelled).

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A solar collector, comprising a distributor frame manifold and a plurality of heat exchangers, wherein each heat exchanger comprises:

a vacuum tube having an inner wall, wherein the vacuum tube is a glass tube;

a fluid-conducting pipe system adapted to hold a fluid, wherein the fluid-conducting pipe system comprises an outer wall connected to the distributor frame manifold;

at least one heat-conducting element made of metal connecting the inner wall of the vacuum tube to the outer wall of the fluid-conducting pipe system; and

means for collecting and concentrating solar energy provided on a side of the inner wall of the vacuum tube facing away from the at least one heat-conducting element, wherein the outer wall of the fluid-conducting pipe system is a metal wall, wherein each heat-conducting element extends in a spiral shape along a cross-section of the heat exchanger, covers an angle of at least 450 degrees, is attached at the outer wall of the fluid-conducting pipe system and prestressed against the inner wall of the vacuum tube and the fluid-conducting pipe system, such that the outer wall of the fluid-conducting pipe system is centered concentric to the inner wall of the vacuum tube, wherein the vacuum tube is <u>indirectly</u> resiliently connected to the <u>distributor frame via manifold by means of</u> the prestressed heat-conducting elements <u>and the fluid-conducting pipe system</u>.

Claims 10-14 (Cancelled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The heat exchanger as claimed in claim 9, wherein the heat exchanger has two heat-conducting elements, wherein two of the heat-conducting elements are spaced apart from one another in an angular arrangement on an outer

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wall of the fluid-conducting pipe system over an angular range between 350 to 359 degrees or between 90 and 179 degrees.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The heat exchanger as claimed in claim 9, wherein the fluid-conducting pipe system comprises an outer volume and an inner volume operable in a counter-current mode.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The heat exchanger as claimed in claim 9, wherein the fluid is a heat-conducting fluid, and the fluid is contained within the inner tube.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The heat exchanger as claimed in claim 9, wherein the at least one heat-conducting element is hard-soldered at the outer wall of the fluid-conducting pipe system.